## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 18-cr-205

## ALVARO PEREZ-MORALES,

Defendant.

## REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON DEFENDANT'S CHANGE OF PLEA

The United States of America and the defendant, Alvaro Perez-Morales, appeared before me on February 19, 2019, for a change of plea colloquy pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. *See* Court Minutes for Change of Plea Hearing, ECF No.14. Mr. Perez-Morales, who was represented by counsel at the hearing, consented to my conducting the plea colloquy. I explained that it would be for United States District Judge J.P. Stadtmueller alone, not me, to enter the plea and that my role was to conduct the plea colloquy and then to prepare a report and recommendation for ultimate disposition by Judge Stadtmueller.

After Mr. Perez-Morales was placed under oath and advised as to the implications of being untruthful, I questioned him about his competency to go forward with the hearing. Through his responses, I found that Mr. Perez-Morales was lucid, intelligent, and not under the influence of any intoxicants or substances.

I then discussed in detail each of the subjects specified in Rule 11, including the rights Mr. Perez-Morales would surrender by entering a plea of guilty, the maximum penalties associated with the offenses included in the Plea Agreement, ECF No. 11, and the authority of the sentencing judge to disregard any recommendations in the Agreement, and to sentence Mr. Perez-Morales at the statutory maximums. Mr. Perez-Morales fully understood the rights he was surrendering and the implications of pleading guilty. Mr. Perez-Morales also was satisfied that he had received effective assistance of counsel.

At the conclusion of this colloquy, I determined that the guilty plea was knowing and voluntary and was not induced by threats or by promises not contained in the Plea Agreement. I found that there was an independent factual basis containing each of the essential elements of Counts One and Two of the Indictment, ECF No. 1, to which Mr. Perez-Morales was pleading guilty. Mr. Perez-Morales advised that he was pleading guilty to those offenses because he was, in fact, guilty and that the United States could prove beyond a reasonable doubt that he was guilty of them. Finally, I found that, in responding to my questions, Mr. Perez-Morales was candid, respectful, and non-evasive, fully accepting responsibility for and acknowledging the unlawfulness of his conduct.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED that defendant Alvaro Perez-Morales's plea of guilty be accepted; that a presentence investigation and report be prepared according to the schedule set by the Court; and that Mr. Perez-Morales be adjudicated guilty and have sentence imposed accordingly.

Your attention is directed to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C), Fed. R. Crim. P. 59(b), and E.D. Wis. Gen. L. R. 72(c), whereby written objections to any recommendation herein, or part thereof, may be filed within fourteen days of service of this Recommendation. Objections are to be filed in accordance with the Eastern District of Wisconsin's electronic case filing procedures. Failure to file a timely objection with the District Judge shall result in a waiver of your right to appeal. If no response or reply will be filed, please notify the Court in writing.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this <u>20th</u> day of February, 2019.

BY THE COURT:

s/ David E. Jones
DAVID E. JONES
United States Magistrate Judge